Appreciating the Everyday, Magical Moments of Parenting Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

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Who We Are

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Early Intervention tends to highlight challenges and work to mitigate them.

In the process, some families lose touch with the JOY of parenting.
Why We Came Together
Partnering with Hands & Voices to Foster Joy
Attending to Social-Emotional Functioning

...not just language
...not just audiologic concerns
...not just medical questions

But really Fostering Joy
Parent Focus Group

- Hands & Voices Annual Leadership Conference July 2018
- Pre-conference questionnaire
- In-person discussion
Project Fostering Joy

Parent Focus Groups - 1

Nostalgia

Joy in Daily Routines

Skill Development
Project Fostering Joy

Parent Focus
Groups - 2

Self-Reflection

Co-Existing Emotions

Community & Support
Fostering Joy in Families

- Moms
- Dads
- Grandparents
- Aunts & Uncles
- Foster parents
- Families of all kinds!
Next Steps

01 Adapting the SEAM tool, making it applicable for use with Deaf and hard of hearing children

02 Raising awareness of the need to attend to the social-emotional development of all children, including those with reduced hearing

03 Giving space to talk about ‘what is right’ in a child’s development
Helping Families Bask in the Joy

• Relishing the little moments
• Recognizing their strengths
• Feeling OK about “just being”
• Delighting in the child’s progress
A Sentiment
A Call to Action
A Movement
Be a Part of this Movement!

- Parent Advisory Council
- Parent Ambassadors

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Join the Movement to Foster Joy!

- Professional Ambassadors

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